



Nevada Division of
STATE LANDS

STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Steve Sisolak, Governor
Bradley Crowell, *Director*
Charles C. Donohue, *Administrator*

March 2, 2020

To: Jamie Rodriguez-Washoe County, Dylan Shaver-City of Reno, and Doug Thornley-City of Sparks

From: Scott Carey, State Lands Planner

RE: Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act Comments

The purpose of this memo is to provide Washoe County, the City of Reno, and the City of Sparks with initial comments on the Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act from the Nevada Division of State Lands. This memo is based on information shared during the January 24, 2020 stakeholder workshop in Reno, and the February 20, 2020 public input meeting in Reno.

- 1) Consistent with other public lands bills, the Division is pleased to see a commitment to direct 5% of the land sales proceeds to support general education in the State of Nevada. As the legislation is drafted, the Division encourages the proponents to ensure that Congress specifies that the 5% revenues be deposited into the State of Nevada Permanent School Fund.
- 2) The Division would like the opportunity to secure lands within the proposed disposal areas to support essential state services. In the future, as Washoe County develops there will be need for expanded state services, such as a Department of Motor Vehicles branch, state licensing offices, Nevada Highway Patrol substation, ground for the Nevada National Guard, and other public services provided by the State. The Division would like to see a future land reservation process enacted similar to what is currently in place under the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act. This land reservation process with the BLM allows the State and other local agencies to reserve lands for public needs as federal lands become available for disposal.
- 3) The Division supports the proposed changes to the Massacre Rim Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and the Dry Valley Rim WSA. The proposed land designation changes from WSA to multiple use near the State's school trust lands in Vya and Flanigan will allow the State to more effectively utilize these lands to their highest and best use in support of education in Nevada. As this legislation moves forward it is important to avoid land designation changes that could negatively impact State owned lands, including the State's ability to utilize its School Trust lands for the benefit of the Permanent School Fund.

At this time the Division does not have a position on the proposed legislation and reserves the right to comment in the future. The Division appreciates the communication and information that has been shared by Washoe County, City of Reno, and City of Sparks concerning this proposed legislation. The Division looks forward to continuing to participate with local governments as this legislation continues to move forward. If you have any questions or would like additional information concerning the Division of State Lands comments, please feel free to contact me at 775-684-2723 or scarey@lands.nv.gov.